MEMORANDUM FOR ALL DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES

SUBJECT: National Nuclear Security Administration

Today the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) formally begins operation. I am pleased with the Department staff's work over the past months to get the NNSA up and running. Their objective has been to tap the advantages that a unified NNSA focus can bring to our national security programs, while maintaining strong collaboration with all the other programs and staff of the Department.

I hope that the President will soon nominate an Under Secretary for Nuclear Security, and that the Senate will quickly confirm his choice. Until then, as directed by the President in his signing statement for the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2000, I will perform all duties and functions of the Under Secretary for Nuclear Security. The Under Secretary for Nuclear Security will serve as the Administrator for Nuclear Security.

The national security functions and activities performed by certain elements of the Department have been transferred to NNSA. The three Deputy Administrators of NNSA, all heads of Department Elements within the Department of Energy, are:

- General Thomas F. Gioconda, who was the Acting Assistant Secretary for Defense Programs, is now the Acting Deputy Administrator for Defense Programs.
- Rose E. Gottemoeller, who was the Assistant Secretary for Nonproliferation and National Security, is now serving as the Acting Deputy Administrator for Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation; and
- Admiral F. L. Bowman, who was the Director of the Office of Naval Reactors, is now the Deputy Administrator for Naval Reactors.

Copies of the new organization charts for the Department and NNSA are available at www.nnsa.doe.gov, or through links at the Department of Energy website, www.doe.gov.

As of today, about 2,000 Department employees have been realigned to become employees of NNSA. This figure includes those employed by the Offices of Defense Programs, Fissile Materials Disposition, and Nonproliferation and National Security. In addition, almost all employees of the Office of Naval Reactors, the Pittsburgh Naval Reactors Office (including the Idaho Branch Office), the Schenectady Naval Reactors Office (including the West Milton Field Office), and the Nevada and Albuquerque Operations Offices are now employees of NNSA, as are some others, mainly at the Oakland, Oak Ridge and Savannah River Operations Offices. In the coming weeks I anticipate that an additional small number of other current Department employees may become NNSA employees.

I also want to take this opportunity to announce that I have designated Under Secretary Ernest J.

Moniz as the Secretary's Special Negotiator for Russian Initiatives. During a transition period before the confirmation of the Under Secretary for Nuclear Security, Under Secretary Moniz will continue to oversee implementation of the action plan I put forward in response to the 30-Day Review of Stockpile Stewardship that he led last year.

All of the Department's programs -- including the NNSA and the offices over science, environmental management, renewable energy and nuclear power -- will continue to work together. The Department's current staff offices will continue to provide business, administrative, financial and other support services to NNSA, as needed. A few examples of the services that will be provided will be help in processing Freedom of Information Act requests, investigating claims of discrimination, and help in processing financial, procurement and personnel actions. It is important to understand that, while there are significant changes within the management structure of the Department, the day-to-day routine will remain essentially the same. All field offices will continue to have the same authorities that they have always had, but delegated through different channels.

In general, all statutes, regulations, delegations, and directives, including policy statements, orders, notices, manuals, guides, and technical standards, applicable to the Department of Energy that were in effect on February 29, 2000 continue to apply to Department functions and activities that have been transferred to NNSA. In addition, the Field Management Council and the Department's other corporate management processes, such as the Energy Systems Acquisition Advisory Board and the Executive Resources Board, will continue in full force and effect.

NNSA laboratories and facilities will continue to perform work and provide services to non-NNSA missions and programs just as they did prior to March 1, 2000. Similarly, non-NNSA laboratories and facilities will perform work and provide services to NNSA missions and programs just as they did prior to March 1, 2000, as a service provider to the NNSA.

I am optimistic that the steps we have taken will enable NNSA to bring clearer focus to the Department's national security functions while maintaining a vigorous and critical collaboration among all of the Department's programs for our nation.

If you have questions about the establishment of the NNSA, or about how you may be affected by its establishment, do not hesitate to ask your supervisor. I am committed to keeping all of you informed regarding the changes that will be occurring at the Department as a result of the establishment of the NNSA.

Bill Richardson